

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 126817

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 EPG-02 COME-00
DLOS-09 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSC-05
NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 /130 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:MCKING:PG

APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES

-----020052Z 029572 /62

O 012356Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

SECDEF

CINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 126817

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, ENRG, TS, LY

SUBJECT:LIBYAN-TUNISIAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE: LIBYAN
DEMARCHE AND CONVERSATIONS WITH AMERICAN COMPANY

REF: A. TRIPOLI 704 B. STATE 125155

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 126817

1. LIBYAN CHARGE GASHUT CALLED ON NEA/AFN JUNE 1 TO PRESENT
DEMARCHE CONCERNING USG PRESSURE ON DRILLING COMPANY
OPERATING IN DISPUTED WATERS. GASHUT REPORTED THAT HIS
GOVERNMENT HAD LEARNED OF USG PRESSURE; THAT HE INSTRUCTED
TO SAY RIG OPERATING IN SOVEREIGN LIBYAN AREA OUTSIDE AREA
CLAIMED BY TUNISIA; THAT LIBYAN/TUNISIAN TALKS AT HIGHEST
LEVEL CONTINUING; AND THAT USG INTERFERENCE WITH READING

AND BATES COMPANY WILL QUOTE COMPLICATE UNQUOTE MATTER
AND THESE HIGH LEVEL TALKS.

2. DEPTOFFS SAID WE UNABLE ACCEPT LIBYAN GOVERNMENT CHARAC-
TERIZATION LOCATION OF "J.W. BATES" AS OUTSIDE AREA
CLAIMED BY TUNISIA; THAT AS A MATTER OF POLICY WE ADVISE
ALL U.S. DRILLING COMPANIES AGAINST OPERATING IN DISPUTED
WATERS, BUT THAT IN SO DOING WE WERE NEUTRAL, GIVING SUCH
ADVICE EQUALLY TO COMPANIES INTERESTED IN DRILLING FOR

LIBYAN OR TUNISIAN COMPANIES. IN DISCUSSION THAT FOLLOWED,
CHARGE VIGOROUSLY ARGUED THAT TUNISIAN CLAIMS RE SHARE OF
SHELF WERE LUDICROUS; THAT LIBYAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES
BE WILLING TO ASK INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE FOR
DECISION ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES BUT NOT FOR ACTUAL DELINEA-
TION OF SHELF. GASHUT ALSO STATED THAT LIBYANS WILL,
OF COURSE, PUT QUOTE PRESSURE UNQUOTE ON VESSEL TO REMAIN.
DEPTOFFS SAID USG EXPECTS THAT LIBYAN GOVERNMENT WILL POSE
NO PHYSICAL OBSTACLES SHOULD U.S. FIRM DECIDE TO REDEPLOY
ITS SHIP.

3. CHARGE HANDED OVER LIBYAN EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE DATED
MAY 31 WHICH CLAIMS TUNISIANS ATTEMPTING QUOTE ANNEX
UNQUOTE WATERS BEGINNING FROM AL-KHOMS REACHING CAPE OF
GHADIR AND OFFICIAL DISCLAIMER RE LIBYAN TROOPS ABOARD
RIG.

4. LATER IN AFTERNOON JUNE 1, READING AND BATES PARENT
COMPANY PRESIDENT THORNTON CALLED VELIOTES IN NEA TO SAY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 126817

THAT FIRM HAD TELEXED LIBYAN NATIONAL OIL COMPANY (NOC)
TO ASK FOR MEETING TO DISCUSS SITUATION. THORNTON SAID
HE AND SUBSIDIARY FIRM PRESIDENT KENT WOULD TRAVEL, HAD
PROPOSED LONDON AS MEETING VENUE, BUT WERE WILLING TO GO
TO TRIPOLI IF NECESSARY. VELIOTES INFORMED THORNTON OF
LIBYAN DEMARCHE, AND OF U.S. STATEMENT TO LIBYAN CHARGE
THAT WE EXPECT LIBYANS NOT RPT NOT TO PREVENT U.S. SHIP
FROM DEPARTING IF THIS WAS DECISION OF FIRM.

5. FOR LONDON: VELIOTES EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THORNTON AND
KENT WOULD STAY IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY DURING MEETINGS WITH
NOC, WHETHER IN LONDON OR TRIPOLI. REQUEST THAT YOU OFFER
ANY APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE IF MEETINGS HELD THERE.
THORNTON ASKED FOR CONTACT IN EMBASSY LONDON SHOULD
MEETINGS WITH LIBYANS BE HELD THERE. WOULD APPRECIATE IT
IF APPROPRIATE EMBOFF COULD CONTACT COMPANY OFFICE AND
LEAVE NAME AND NUMBER.

6. FOR TRIPOLI: THORNTON WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH CHARGE OR

BERGSTROM IF MEETINGS HELD IN TRIPOLI.

HABIB

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, DISPUTES, OFFSHORE DRILLING, CONTINENTAL SHELF, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE126817
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MCKING:PG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770195-1062
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197705105/aaaadnmz.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2e896088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TRIPOLI 704
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2337218
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBYAN-TUNISIAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE: LIBYAN DEMARCHE AND CONVERSATIONS WITH AMERICAN COMPANY
TAGS: PLOS, ENRG, TS, LY, US
To: LONDON TRIPOLI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2e896088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009